



PATENT  
ATTY. DOCKET NO.: C99-027 (Formerly PM-264880)  
AN: 09/451,084

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3-21-03  
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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

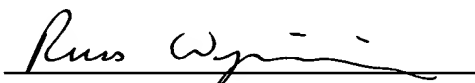
In re Application of: **MIKHAIL AKOPYAN, et al.**

Serial No.: **09/451,084** Art Unit: **2623**  
Filed: **11/30/1999** Examiner: **KIBLER, VIRGINIA M**  
For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR INSPECTING  
DISTORTED PATTERNS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)**

I hereby certify that on 3/8/03 this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: The Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231.



**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

In response to the office Action dated 11/08/2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows: